

From: Russell Schoech
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Class Action law suit

I have been following along with this trial since its onset. I believe that these punishments applied to Microsoft in no way discourage monopolistic practices and indeed, encourage Microsoft to continue with these practices in a more aggressive manner. Why? Because a punishment of donating the company's overpriced software to schools is the most absurd form of punishment I could ever imagine. Indeed the creators of the Sherman Antitrust Act would be sick their stomachs about this proposed "solution". Not only is the punishment ridiculous and in no way encourages competition (being the entire point of this act), it would appear to the American public that this is in fact the complete opposite. By distributing their software packages for free allows for Microsoft to gain a further stronghold in the market by forcing children at these underprivileged schools to use their products. Upon maturing to an age where they will be obliged to purchase software packages, which packages do you suppose that they will choose. ones that they already know and have been forced to learn upon and indeed are already comfortable with or some other package?

The American public knows that Microsoft has gotten away with the murder of unfortunate corporations, why doesn't the DOJ? Maybe a new trial to prove it again should be enforced. The people who seem to have been paid off could then line their pockets a little more. By the time that the DOJ finishes, there will only be fragments of once profitable corporations. Maybe they could combine their collective efforts into a unified company called Anti-Soft!

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